

THE
L I F E
O F
William Barnard, Esq;
WITH SOME
ADVENTURES
O F
Manuell Powell.

By a LOVER of his Country.

Per varios Casus, per tot Discrimina Rerum,
VIRG.

PART I.



Printed in the YEAR 1743.

THE

LIBRARY

OF

WILLIAM B. BROWN, Esq.

WITH SOME

ADVENTURES

M. P.

By a LOVER of his Country.

For sale by the Author, at the
Virginia

PART I.

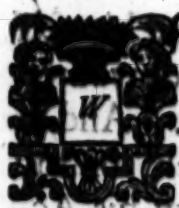


Printed in the YEAR 1791.



THE LIFE OF

William Baskly, Esq; &c.



William Baskly, Esq; the Hero of my present Subject, was only Son of *William Baskly*, of the Parish of *Exedeshy*, in the County of *Hereford*, Esq; As to his Descent, it is common among us Historians to give the Publick some Account thereof; and to satisfy the Curious, I have, as under, set forth the Inscription on a Monument in *Exedeshy* Church, erected in his Father's Life: The Copy of which was wrote with his own Hand, and by him sent to *London* (on the Death of his Wife) to be engraven on Marble, for the Information of the Curious.

Ut Rosa sic Vita.

Bubbles broke,

But Death's the Gate to Life.

Here under lie the Bodies as well of *Mrs. J—e B—ly*, who was Grandaughter to *Sir Justinian Isham* and Daughter of *Nicholas Leeftange, Barts.* As also of *William Baskly, Esq;* her Husband, long Senior Bencher of the Inner-Temple, *London*, Justice of Peace, and Deputy-Lieutenant. By a too friendly parting, losing much; by manifest Providence leaving enough. She died, as called, November the 4th, Aged 63; and He, April the 27th, Aged 94.

This, I hope, is sufficient to give my Readers an Account of his Pedigree. And as to his Education; This, as near as I can, is from my own Knowledge, being well acquainted with him when a School-Boy: As also from his own Mouth when a Man, and better capable to inform me, what passed during the Time of his being at School in the Country: As also, of the Progress he made at *Oxford*, being enter'd a Gentleman-Commoner at *Christ-Church*.

During his Stay there, he did not give himself much to the Perusal of Books; but endeavoured to qualify himself in understanding Men. And in less than a Month (as he told me himself, on my going with him to the College to renew his Acquaintance) he knew the Butlers, Cooks, Bread-chippers, Dish-washers, and Trencher-scrapers, to a Man: Not only their Persons, but by their Names of *Dick*, *Tom*, and *Harry*, or what other Appellation they were distinguished by. But to his great Mortification, there was none of them left; it being near eighteen Years since his Elopement from College, and the Time of our going to the Kitchen, to enquire for them.

As I told you before, he did not puzzle himself with the Severities of a College, as Exercises, &c, nor ever gave himself the Trouble of attending publick Declamations: But never fail'd the College Provisions; for he told me he never miss'd his Commons: *And why should I Boy*, says he; *I was sure they would make my Father pay for it, whether I eat it or not.*

His Tutor would often ask him for his Exercise, which he pretended he lost out of his Pocket, between

tween their Chambers ; and at other Times, pleaded he was hinder'd by Illness, and the like. These were the Excuses he made. And I believe his Tutor, being a good-natured Man, was not willing to put his Pupil on a Work too difficult for him ; so accepted the trifling Speeches he made.

I cannot say but his Father's close Fift might, in a great Measure, hinder his Progress in Learning, for want of something to keep his Spirits flowing, (which they that are acquainted with *Oxford* tell me, is a great Help to the Sons of *Apollo*) he never being entrusted with that Plague of Mankind, *Money*, or other Superfluities, equal to the Fortune his Father had acquired for him. For, upon his Tutor's writing to his Father for an Allowance for Pocket-Money, and Shirts, the first he entirely disallow'd ; and as to the latter, said — *Three were sufficient for any Man that was not lousy, or had no Distemper on him.*

These are the most material Occurrences at *Oxford* ; from which Place he was seduced by one Miss P——, a *Welsh* Lady, who carried him up to *London*, where he married her in the *Devil-Tavern* at *Temple-Bar*, a *Fleet* Parson being provided by her Appointment for that Purpose.

By this Time, you know, there was an early Stop put to his Studies ; or what he might in Time have conceiv'd, (and perhaps brought forth) I am not able to determine. However, soon after his Nuptials he returned into *Herefordshire*, where he lived during the Remainder of his Father's Life, without making any considerable Noise in the World, or any other material Thing that has yet come to my Knowledge.

I must here beg my Readers Pardon for a Digression from my Subject ; but 'tis to give a short Account in what Manner his Father quitted the Stage, with some remarkable Passages in the Family during his Sickneſs. As to the Manner of his being taken ill, 'tis as follows. He was always a great Admirer of Puddings and Dumplings of all Sorts, eſpecially that Sort of Pudding which our modern Houſewives call the *Hasty* ; which was the laſt Food that enter'd his Body, (and what he had appointed for his *Sunday* Dinner) of which he eat tolerably hearty, 'till an unlucky Piece, for want of good Mixing, did not gain ready Paſſage in his Throat, which put him a retching, (as Miſs *P—*, his Houſe-keeper, and Pudding-maker, told me) and cauſed him to break an Impoſthume in his Stomach.

However, he never ſpoke after to be underſtood by any Perſon, but the ſaid Miſs *Panel*, who being a Woman of a lively Capacity, ſays, he ſtar'd in her Face, and in broken Accents blathered out ſomething (which ſhe ingeniouſly connected together) and made out the four Monosyllables following, *Send—for your Bo*. Which laſt ſhe interpreted *Brother* ; and accordingly ſent for him. Tho' no other Perſon could diſtinguiſh it from the Bellowing of ſome Brute ; but to ſay the Truth of her, ſhe has an extraordinary Knack at Invention, and the other Attendants, tho' a great many, were of little or no Genius.

Things were a little too far gone before the Arrival of Mr. *Panel*, but Miſs, by a Perſpicuity peculiar to herſelf, made it plain to the reſt of the Nurfes, that Mr. *Barnſly* by his Bellowing meant
that

that her Brother was to have his Substance; and had united several of his Bleatings into such a Chain of Words, as were most apt for her Purpose; altho' quite a Myſtery, without Explication, to the reſt of the Company.

The Itch of Curioſity was by this Time grown ſtrong on Miſs, and put her on contriving how to get the Key of Mr. *Bamby*'s Cloſet out of his Pocket, which 'till that Time he kept. So ſhe ſent one Perſon one Way, and another another, and in the mean Time very courteouſly picked his Pocket of the aboveſaid Key; and in the Night following, when they thought all Things quiet, She and her Brother enter'd the Cloſet, to ſearch for a Will, or any other Thing that lay convenient: Not with any evil Intentions, but for the Good of the poor 'Squire, as ſhe call'd him; and for fear any Securities, belonging to honeſt Men, might fall into bad Hands, or Money come into the Fingers of Perſons that would put it to evil and corrupt Uſes, and the like; but that Things might be put in ſuch a Method, that what Mr. *Bamby* had ſo painfully got together, might be as frugally laid out. Theſe, and other like Motives, were poor Miſs's and her Brother's Intentions; which this barbarous ill-natured World has put under baſe Conſtructions, ſuch as I cannot for the Life of me ſet right, tho' for three Years I took what Pains I could. But the World always had, and will have, People of miſtruſtful Tempers in it; and this happen'd to be their Caſe. For ſome of the Attendants hearing a Noiſe in the Cloſet before he was dead, knowing he always kept the Key, poſitively ſaid that he walked whiſt
he

he was alive, and that his Spirit was in the Closet. Nay, his own Maid, who was well acquainted with his Manner of proceeding, said, the very Chink they heard was the same her Master made, when he either bagg'd, or unbagg'd, Money. At last they all came to a Resolution to peep into the Closet through the Key-hole, and to their great Surprise, there was neither Spirit, Devil, or Wizard; only poor Miss and her Brother, on the Account as I said before.

On the Friday following the Old Man died, which was *Good-Friday*, 1737; and Miss, on turning up the Bed, happen'd to find the 'fore-mentioned Key, and in a courteous Manner desired the 'Squire to take it; and in like Manner wish'd him Joy of what God had given him; and at the same Time told him, his Father had not executed the Will he design'd; but that all was his own. He, instead of returning her Thanks for her Civility, and the Care she and her Brother had took of his Affairs in his Father's Illness, return'd for Answer, *The Devil burn him if he would touch it*, (Thus you see how good Offices are rewarded in this perverse Age) and swore they had been there before him; tho', as I said before, their Intentions were for the publick Weal: But however Tears, and other persuasive Arguments at last urged him to it.

Now the Manner of the Funeral was concerted, which was of the same Piece with what is gone before, and not worth relating. But I will again return to my Account of the 'Squire.

The Day his Father was buried (as Sorrow is dry) occasioned him to take a Cup too much.

How-

However, by the Assistance of two People, he was led to his Chariot; and being fixed next the Hearse, put his Head out, and called out to the Driver, (*Mr. Vaughan's Son of Hereford*) *Dick, Dick Boy; Oh my Soul, I am glad to see thee there.* Which occasioned a strange Surprize among the Country People, knowing none of the 'Squire's Speeches to be insignificant.

The Funeral being over, Mr. P——, as well as his Sister, return'd to their respective Habitations. And Mr. B——ly, not satisfied with the late Incurſion into his Father's Cloſet, and being willing to come as near the Truth as poſſible, apply'd to one *Sarah Rowland* (who goes by the Name of the *Wiſe Woman* of *Ligmore-Common*, near *Weobley*) to know what Mr. P—— and his Sister had got of his Subſtance, during the Cloſet-Adventure. But *Sarah's* Familiar was gone abroad; ſo he return'd as wiſe as he went out. Divers other Conjurers were apply'd to: One by the Name of *Morgan*, near the *Welch-Wells*, *Radnorſhire*; and another, one *Keen*, near *Kiddermiſter*, *Worceſterſhire*; but all to no Purpoſe.

After long Deliberation and Conjuring in vain, Mr. P——ce, an eminent Attorney in *Radnorſhire*, was apply'd to; who rais'd the Devil in earneſt, threw P—— and his Sister into Hyſtericks; and had not Mr. B——ly been of a Chriſtian-like Temper, I know not where it had ended. But however, after a little Time, Mr. B——ly not only releas'd the Action, but made P—— a Preſent in general of all his Real and Perſonal Eſtate, by the Contrivance of a Female Inventor, who play'd her Part to ſome Purpoſe.

As the Story is long, I leave my Readers to the Account, as given by Mr. *Thomas Higgins*, of the *Kiles-Nest*, near *Hereford*, who was an Eye-witness to the whole Performance.

Soon after this a Will broke out, under the Title of, *The last Will and Testament of William B——ly, Esq;* and all possible Means were used to contradict it.

After this, a Commission of *Lunacy* was taken out against Mr *B——ly* by his Wife, who was willing to come in for some Share of the Sport. Upon this, Mr. *B——ly* files off to *Aberistwith* in *Wales*; and the Time of his Appearance before the Lord Chancellor coming on, and he taking no Care about it, put *P——* to his last Shifts, knowing his well-contrived Scheme, as before, would be of little Use, if the Giver was proved an Idiot: Therefore *Affidavit-Men* were got from all the neighbouring Parts to prove him not to be what his Wife asserted.

However, it came to this: His personal Appearance was required before the Lord Chancellor, and the Day fix'd for Hearing appointed.

Mr. *P——* not seeing Mr. *B——ly* come home, goes down to *Aberistwith*, and a Gentleman well acquainted with Mr. *B——ly*, to assist him in persuading him not to evade appearing at the appointed Time, but all in vain: He would not return with them; having gain'd as good Acquaintance there, as before at *Oxford*. For he had an intimate Friendship with several of the Gentlemen employ'd in taking Herrings, the whole Garrison of Soldiers (excepting Officers) and the Barber of the Town, who is look'd on as no inconsiderable Person in that Place.

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These were great Obstacles to Mr. P——, who return'd as he went, and by no means could persuade the 'Squire to come back; and if his Majesty, and Lord Chancellor had been there, they could not, by any tolerable Means, have unriveted him from his pleasant Society.

At last, I was the Person fix'd on, by Mr. P——, to go and see what I could do with him; and as our Talents were of an equal Number, we soon jump'd into an Agreement to leave the pleasant Fishermen, &c. and go to *London* together: An Account of which Journey, as well as the most material Occurrences that happened in it, I think myself obliged to give the Publick, by way of Journal; a Method, I see, much in Vogue by our modern Historians. But being defective as to the Days of the Month, you must be satisfied, that it was in *October*, 1737; and I will give you a faithful Account by the Days of the Week, and all Passages that happened during our Journey.

Monday, I came to *Aberistwith*, in the Evening; where I found the 'Squire sitting by his Bed-side, with *Davy* his Man, cracking Nuts, with a Bottle of Shrub before them. After the first Civilities were over, he gave me a Handful, and recommended a Dram to me; telling me, 'twas the best Thing in the World to drive the *Welsh* Air out of my Belly. For, says he, *I always take a Dram with me when I go on * Merbilch, which, thou know'st, is four times higher than the Top of our Steeple; and some of these plaguy Hills are six*

* A Hill near the 'Squire's House.

times as high as that.—So, Here's my Love to thee—Will. Kent's Health—He gave me a rare Cock,—Flesh! Davy, the Bottle's out—I know, Dick, thou lov'st a Dram—We have had a Sup together before now. And such was our Discourse 'till we had finished another Quart.

By this Time, I found 'twas Time to deliver my Message, which had the Effect I desired. Our Journey next Morning, being *Tuesday*, was agreed on; and, for fear of the *Cardiganshire* Air, we sat up the greatest Part of the Night, to fortify ourselves against it.

As we finished *Monday* Night, we began *Tuesday* Morning, *viz.* with a Dram, for fear of the Mists which those Hills are subject to; and being forty odd Miles from his House in *Herefordshire*, I was employ'd to buy Provision for the Journey. For we were four in Number (a Servant of his going as a Guide with me). I accordingly went to Market, with a strict Order from the 'Squire to buy enough. The first was a fine Cod; one Doz. of Soals, one Doz. of Whittings, and twenty Herrings; which I thought sufficient for two Days Journey of the Fish Kind.

On my examining the 'Squire's Cloak-bag, I found it pretty well stuff'd, *viz.* a large Pan of Pound Cake, one Pot with a Hare, another with Partridges, and, in a Napkin, two Bunches of Hogs-Puddings; all which the 'Squire had carried from home, as put up by his House-keeper. How the Cloak-bag had escaped among such good Company, I know not. However, we had a Neat's-Tongue added; and in this Posture we left *Aberystwith*.

But

But all Men are liable to Accidents ; and, whilst we thought ourselves in a tolerable marching Condition, a miserable Disaster happened ; which, as I am now turn'd *Journalist*, I hope will not be improper to relate. *Ralph* took too much Care in preventing the Damps on the Hills ; and, by that we were come a Mile from *Aberistwith*, wanted to do something for himself ; and we riding carelessly on, and not keeping our best Baggage in the Front, dropt him : From which Time I did not see him 'till my Return from *London*. But he afterwards told me, he was not able to mount again when down ; that he fell asleep, and, before he awak'd, the Basket was stolen off the Horse ; and that he durst not come home, 'till he heard we were gone our Journey.

At *Coomesistwith* we waited for him, but no Man came up : So I opened the Cloak-bag, and took out the Tongue, with a Bunch of Hogs-Puddings, of which we din'd, (tho' they had suffered pretty much by Carriage) but the most material Thing was gone, viz. the Drink ; and ten Miles over the Hills, before we came to *Rbayder*.

On our Arrival there, which was not 'till far in the Evening, the News spread about the Town, that my Lord *B——ly* was come again, (he always making himself very popular, wherever he travels) and it happen'd to be the Festival of the Mayor of that Place : Who, as soon as he heard of the Arrival of so great a Person in his Jurisdiction, came to pay his Respects to his Lordship, as they call him in those Parts : Whether they give him this Title, on account of his having some Manours in the Principality, or on account of his wearing a
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red Coat with a large black Cape, a laced Hat, and a great Hanger girded just below his Stomach, I cannot say. However, Mr. *Mayor* made a Speech, which was seconded by a Justice of Peace of that Neighbourhood, the Officers looking on him with great Amazement.

But he was determined not to compliment; so gave me a gentle Bob, which Hint I took; and so left Mr. *Mayor*, &c. without using any Civilities at all.

I would not have my Readers think the 'Squire either ill-natured, or unmannerly. But, as they were coming in, he was addressing himself to a Girl of the House, who was stuck up in the Corner by him; and I can positively affirm, that this was the Reason that Mr. *Mayor* and his Company were used in so ungentleman-like a Manner, it not being the natural Bent of his Temper.

The late unseasonable Visit drove the 'Squire and myself to Bed without our Suppers. However, he rose next Morning, being *Wednesday*, by Three o'Clock, and called up the Family: I was much tired, and lay a little after him. But he got a large Dish of Mutton-Stakes; and about Four in the Morning we went to Breakfast, and so on our Journey a little after Day-break: When another Accident happen'd to us, viz. *Davy* had the Misfortune to steal a Silver Spoon at *Aberistwith*; on which Account we were stopp'd a little; But as our Journey required Haste, we made up the Matter, and so escaped Mr. *Mayor* we had used so ill the Night before.

His Journey the next Day, being *Wednesday*, was short, being only to *Landrindo Wells*; where,
after

after we had demolished a Couple of Fowls, I was dispatch'd with Letters from him to some Persons in *Kington*, and other Places, for their Assistance when we came to *London*; and gave him the Meeting the next Morning, being *Thursday*, at *Calva* in *Radnorshire*; and in the mean Time went to his House, where I got a sufficient Magazine of Victuals sent to him at the above-mentioned Place.

The News of the 'Squire's being come within five Miles of his own House, alarm'd the whole Neighbourhood; and, I believe, we stripp'd the Hills of their Inhabitants for some Miles round us; so that our Provision grew short; the 'Squire, after his own Belly is full, being liberal enough to his Followers; so that, before the next Morning, there was but little Subsistence left; the House drank dry, and the last Piece of Meat in the Pot. I had still some Comfort, when I thought of the Cloak-bag; but, on my going to examine it, found the *Britons* (whilst I was laid down) had smelt it out, and, to my great Confusion, entirely stript it.

I was under great Concern, knowing our last Piece of Victuals was at Stake, and the 'Squire in Bed; and if I durst have took it up before his Rising, 'twas not an Ounce a Man, so great was our Number. At last he got up; and being in a good Humour, we divided fair, and proceeded on our Journey. I must not omit an Account of our Lodging: The 'Squire lay in the best Bed, and had all the Sheets the House afforded; I was obliged to take up with a little Bed by him, which was covered with a Winnowing-Sheet; in which an old Woman, the Mistress of the House's Mother, lay

lay with two small Children; which had been so indecently used, that I was obliged to quit it, almost as soon as I lay down: However, we came to his House that Night, being *Friday*.

On *Saturday* Morning we went on for *London*; but I was oblig'd to go a little out of our Way for some Things needful for our Journey, especially a Bottle of Rum, which a Gentleman some Time before had given him a Taste of; and he was afraid of the Lord Chancellor's detaining him, and told me, he would have another Dram of it, for fear he should not come into these Parts again; which I wish had been deny'd me, it being the Fore-runner of divers Accidents that happened in our Journey, as you will hear anon.

He was gone on several Miles before I overtook him; but at our Meeting I uncorked the Bottle; and being two or three Hours separate, what with Joy to meet again, we drank to each other 'till we finished it; and soon after came to *Ross*, where we din'd.

Nothing material happen'd there; but 'twas not our Luck to keep long out of Misfortunes, which we had been pretty free from most Part of the Day: For no sooner were we got beyond *Weston-under-Penyard*, but a Coachman coming from *London*, with a Set of Horses, (to take up Mr. *Paul Foley's* Family) his Postillion keeping the Road on the Foremost, and our 'Squire, not being so strongly mounted, was like to be overset. On which the Coachman, and another Person coming to the Postillion's Assistance, a bloody Fight was like to ensue. The 'Squire drew his great Hanger, and swore; if he had not the Way, if they (the Riders)

Riders) escaped with their Heads on, their Horses Ears should suffer. But their Cavalry being stronger than ours, forced our Ranks; and Company interfering, we lost the Field: Which was the only Time the 'Squire was put to the worst, on the first Onset, all our Journey; tho' in the Sequel of our other Engagements we had no great Reason to brag, as you will hear by and by.

At Night we reach'd *Gloucester*, where the 'Squire was not so jovial as usual, and seem'd to be a little out of Temper with me; saying, I turn'd out of the Way before I was forced to it, and that if I had stood as firm to him as *Tom Higgins*, he had not come off with such Disgrace; and further added, He heard his Mother say, Sir *Roger L'Estrange*, her Uncle, was a bold Man; and that he hated a Coward, as he did the Devil.

I was under some Concern how to give him Answer, and save my Credit; and alledg'd that my Horse was weak and lame, and that as I was wheeling, in order to come at them the better, one of their Horses threw me and mine against a Gorse-Bush that grew on the Bank, and had like to have put out my Eyes. On which he seem'd a little better satisfied, and told me, He should have been sorry to have seen me hurt; tho', by the Bye, 'twas my Cowardice that made me flinch, always having a tender Regard for my Hide.

Next Morning, being *Sunday*, he dismissed two of his Servants (*Higgins* and *Woodcock*) and only took *Davy* and myself as Convoys. But the Misfortune of the Day before so stuck in his Stomach, that he called at almost every House on the Road, that had any Liquor to sell, between *Gloucester* and

the farther End of *Burlip*; when we had but few Houses between that and *Bearward's-Brook*, where we din'd; as the 'Squire had done some time before, on a Journey from *London*, with one *C—l*, a pretended Baronet, whose History you shall have in its proper Place; however, must beg Leave to give you a short Account of his Discourse about him with our Landlady, and a Butcher from *Cheltenham*, the Place of *C——l*'s late Residence, whilst at Dinner; which I will set forth, as near as I can, in their own Words.

'Squire. *Why, Landlady, ho' don't you remember me here, some time a while ago, with a fine Fellow in a lac'd Waistcoat, and a lac'd Hat?*

Landl. Yes, and please your Worship; and altho' you were the Gentleman, he took all on himself; but I knew the Knave well enough. A Rope stretch the Rascal! I remember him with but a Shoe and a half to his Feet, and a little peel'd Hat, cock'd at three Corners; and look'd as like *Tim. Doodle*, the Gingerbread-Man, as two Pea-son, la' la.

'Squire. *Why, Landlady, what you say is true, I believe; but he takes on him hugely, and says, that he is the seventh Son of a seventh Son of a Baronet, and struts and lords it in our Neighbourhood, and talks of his Family, that a Body would swear his Great Grandfire came out of Noah's Ark.*

Butcher. A Plague on him for a Whoreson! I warrant he has forgot the Quilt Petticoat he left at the Plough in our Town for Pennyworths of Scurvy-Grass, which he pretended was to get him a Stomach, with a Vengeance to him; when the Hungarian Rogue went as empty a-Nights to Bed,

as my great Dog on a *Sunday* 'Onder, and that you know is no Killing-Day.

Landl. *For my part, I hate to say any thing behind Folks Backs that I will not say to their Faces: But I remember him limping about after Lord Craven's Steward, with one Heel to two Shoes, and at last was turn'd out of the Family for a Pickthank, which is the worst Sort of Person any one can keep about 'em, for there's no Peace where they are look'd on; and I never spread my Eyes on him from that Time, 'till he came to my House with your Worship in that Disguise; but I knew him thro' it.*

'Squire. Why, Landlady, as you say, to speak ill of Folks behind their Backs, is not well: But he begg'd that Waistcoat and Hat of me in *London*, and ever after look'd on himself as the better Man. In Troth, I believe he sleeps in 'em; for I never see them off his Back from that Day to this, tho' we both live in the same House."

I might have heard a great deal more of the like the *republican*, but was afraid of my Companion settling too close with the Butcher; and after a great deal of Importunity, got him on Horseback once again: So that we travelled as far as *Letchblade* that Night, where we took up our Quarters, supp'd heartily, and drank freely.

Next Morning, being *Monday*, I was awak'd very early by the 'Squire, who was got up, and had fix'd his Hands fast on the Side of his Bed, and was easing his Body under that where I lay, (they standing near together). I was surprized to hear him at that Work; but he complaining of the Gripes, and I knowing he had a sufficient Quantity in his Belly, took it the more patiently.

I have heard People say, *Sh—t—n Luck is good Luck* : But I shall ever be of a different Opinion, this being one of the most unlucky Days I ever met with in my Travels, and, I believe, was that which the Old Women call, *Cross-Day*.

I got up, rang the Bell, called the Maid, and ordered a Pot of Coffee; sent *Davy* to get our Horses ready; met the Maid with our Breakfast at the Door, not caring for her Company, lest she should *smell a Rat*; and by Four that Morning (being *Monday*) got to *St. John's Bridge* : When the 'Squire ask'd me for the Dram-Bottle (I having the peculiar Charge of that, to get it filled as oft as empty, which I believe was twenty Times from *Gloucester* to *London*). After I had given him a Dram, and took a little myself, he set on very briskly, in order to make out our Journey for the Day before, which was but short; (but, according to Custom, we were disappointed) and before we rode another Mile, as they are short (being mark'd out by Stones) he renew'd his Request (*that is*) for another Dram; and, I think, I also help'd myself. After this, he and his Servant out-rode me, and I saw them no more 'till I came to *Farringdon*. The 'Squire, it seems, took it amiss of me for not keeping them Company; but, as I said before, being but indifferently mounted, was not able to keep Pace with 'em; which the 'Squire thought proper to turn to my Disadvantage, in Manner following.

A Man being come for a Horse out of the Grounds, about a Mile short of *Farringdon*, the 'Squire and *Davy* agreed to knock him off; thinking that, when I came up, the Fellow would take me

me for one of the Company, by being out so early, and require the Injury, done by them, out of my Bones. I soon overtook the Fellow, and asked him if he saw two Men go by ; when he told in what a base Manner they had used him : And I soon after came up with the Horse, who was walking with a Halter dragging between his Legs, which was near throwing him down several times before I got past him, and seem'd as much frightened as the poor Fellow.

In *Farrington* I came up with my 'Squire again, when he very frankly told me his late Contrivance. I was oblig'd to take it patiently ; and we jogg'd on very lovingly to *Kingston-Inn*, which happened to be their Wake ; and our 'Squire took Acquaintance with some Good Fellows that had been there all Night, drank very plentifully of the Wake Ale, and in two Hours was as forward as they that had been at it all Night. But as a Quarrel was breaking out, I persuaded him to quit the Place ; which he readily consented to.

In a short Time we came to *Abingdon*, where he ordered a Barber to be sent for, and a Couple of Fowls for his Dinner. After the Barber had done his Work, he very courteously ask'd him to stay and dine with him, which the Barber modestly refused with a low Bow ; however was prevailed on to drink two or three Glasses of Wine, by which Time they came to be well acquainted ; the 'Squire saying he never met with a Barber in his Life that was not a good-humoured Man ; and told him, he was very much like his late Acquaintance at *Aberistwith* ; and withal ask'd him if he could play on the Fiddle. On the Barber's replying No, he seem'd

seem'd sorry ; but soon after cried, *I warrant, Boy, thou can'st sing well* ; which the Barber deny'd : Or we had not stirr'd from *Abingdon* that Night ; which I could heartily wish had so happen'd.

For no sooner were we gone out of the Town's-End, but a Higgler coming to Market, and looking hard on the 'Squire, who by this Time cut a good Figure, and, I believe, smil'd at the odd Situation of his Hanger ; and *Davy* and myself were turning up to the Turnpike ; and I looking behind me, miss'd my 'Squire, who I saw was riding towards *Abingdon* again, Side by Side, with the Higgler ; demanding Satisfaction of him for smiling in his Face on the King's High Road. I made what Haste I could back ; but *Davy* set out furiously to his Master, and before I could come to make Peace, the 'Squire and his Man had beat the poor Fellow off his Horse, and had him in the Dirt between them : I was afraid they would have trod him to Death ; but the Brutes having more good Nature than their Riders, did him no Damage. The Fellow lost his Hat and Wig in the Dirt, which was plenty in that Place ; and several young Ladies were standing on the Causeway to see the Diversion. I asked him what made him use the Man in that Manner, and what Affront he had given him. All the Answer I could get was, *That he would not be laugh'd at by any Man in England, and that the Road was as free for him as another ; and that he always paid his Reckoning wherever he travell'd.* And such trifling Excuses was all I could get from him.

The Fellow never stood to demand Satisfaction ; but as soon as he got on his Legs, ran towards
Abingdon,

Abingdon, as if the Devil had drove him, leaving his Horse, and Hat and Wig, in the Dirt.

During this Skirmish, some Low-Country Men passed us with a large Drove of Swine, and were just going through the Turnpike as we came to it. I paid the Man; and, whilst I stay'd for Change, the 'Squire was got into the Middle of the Drove of Pigs. The Hog-drivers cried out to him, not to hurt their Swine; saying, if he would have a little Patience, he might go by them very well, (the Lane being narrow). But the 'Squire's Passion was very great: So stuck Spurs to his Horse, and plung'd himself into the Thick of the Drove, where they threw him and his Horse down, and a great Parcel of the Pigs ran over him, and trod him in a bad Manner. The People set up a great Shout; and I could not forbear laughing inwardly, to see what a Figure he made. However, after some Time, we got him on Horseback again, tho' very sore, by being so unreasonably trod on for a full Minute before they were all past him.

I was in some Pain, how we should pass by them; they being, before we were in a marching Condition, got some hundred Yards before us: But the 'Squire, with his wonted Bravery, gallopp'd by them, tho' they sneer'd us in a loud Manner.

We never ceased gallopping 'till we came near *Dorchester*, when he made a full Stop, and cried, *Dick Boy, these cursed Pigs have hurt my Guts plaguily: But I remember a House in this Town that I drank some good Cherry-Brandy at on my last Return from London, tho' I have forgot the Sign; but*
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I'll warrant thee I'll find it again. So for more Sureness we call'd at every Inn 'till we found the right, which was the *George*, at the farther End of the Town, facing the Boarding-School.

We made the best of our Time, and the Cherry drove out the Misfortune of the Hogs; and towards Evening set out once more, and travell'd as far as the *Flower-de-Luce*, which, I think, is about a hundred or two Yards, for 'tis on this Side *Dorchester* Toll-Gate; where a Female standing at the Door, so bewitch'd our 'Squire, that he alighted to have some Correspondence with her. But I follow'd soon into the House, and, after a few Mugs of Ale to qualify the Brandy, we set out again, and in the Evening reach'd *Benson*; where our 'Squire, what with Drink, and other Misfortunes of the Day, fell from his Horse, and was not able to mount again.

We renew'd the old Game of Eating and Drinking. Soon after the *Cirencester* Coach came in, where was a Passenger much of the same Stamp with the 'Squire, who set as hard to't as tho' they had not seen Drink for seven Years, and continued at it 'till the Coach was ready to go off the next Morning; when, with some Difficulty, *Davy* and myself got him to Bed.

Soon after I was in Bed, on *Tuesday* Morning, the Master of the Inn came into my Room, and told me that a Man, with the Constable of the Town, was come to his House, and had secured the black and grey Mare in the Stable, which were those the 'Squire and *Davy* rode on; and ask'd me if they were not Highwaymen.

For they had ordered the Chamber-Maid to shew them where they lodg'd. I got up immediately

diately and went to them, and found 'twas the Higgler they had abused so the Day before, that was come to seek Redress from them; and had a Warrant from an *Oxfordshire* Justice to apprehend 'em, and bring them before him.

This put me to my Wits-end; for *Friday*, Ten o'Clock, was the Time he was to make his Appearance before the Lord Chancellor; and being all Strangers, I was afraid of their being sent to *Oxford* Gaol, not knowing any Person I could ask to be Bail. I address'd myself to 'em in the best Manner I could, but found all in vain; there was no End to be made, but what the Justice allow'd: But, after some Time, I prevail'd on the Constable and the Man to sit down, called for a Bottle of Wine, and, after half a Day's Drinking, began to bring the Higgler a little milder; and the Constable being a good-natur'd Man, was not over-busy in his Office. I went to the 'Squire's Room (for 'twas *Davy's* Turn that Night to be his Chamber-Mate) as soon as I conveniently could, and told him in what Posture Affairs were below, and that he was like to come into double Trouble, *viz.* *Oxford* Gaol, and be deem'd a Lunatick for Non-appearance at the Time appointed. He was in a terrible Fright, and began to purge both ways in a violent Manner. *Davy* look'd like one risen from the Dead; but I desired them to keep the Room 'till I could make up the Matter, which I was in Hopes of doing by the Assistance of our Landlord and the Constable.

The longer the Higgler drank, the less he smarted, having one very bad Cut in his Head; and some Time in the Evening, tho' late, the Affair

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was made up, on my paying for the Hat and Wig, and *Ten Shillings* for Salve for the Wound. Thus we got over this Disaster, having lost *Tuesday*; and on *Wednesday* proceeded on our Journey.

Misfortunes by this Time had so humbled the 'Squire and his Man, that they talked of little else, than how they would behave before the Lord Chancellor; and we jogg'd on as far as *Colnbrook* that Evening, without any Obstacle at all.

Being now come within one Day's Journey of *London*, he desired our Landlord to give him an Account, in what Manner it was the safest to carry his Money: *For you Landlords* (says he) *I know, are all well acquainted with Highwaymen, which, I hear, at this Time, are plenty on the Heath.* The Man seem'd a little ruffled to have such a Question put to him without any Preface, and said in an angry Manner, *Sir, you are mistaken in your Aim; I keep no such House. Tho' I say it, I would not keep a Servant, if I knew it, that might not be turn'd amongst untold Gold. But, like a great many other Gentlemen, you are willing to make we Innkeepers the Subject of your Discourse, for want of better.*

The 'Squire soon found he had affronted our Landlord; but to make him amends, told him, he was only joking, and meant no Harm; and withal desired he would keep his Money 'till he had an Opportunity of sending safely for it: And in a few Minutes our Landlord became the 'Squire's Banker; and I never saw a greater Intimacy in my Life. We lost no Time; and the Liquor passed merrily round, 'till we were none of us afraid of any Man whatever; and *Davy* fresh charg'd his Fusée, as well

well as Pistols ; all at that Time resolving not to be plundered easily, tho' our Pillage would not have been worth any Man's Trouble ; our Landlord being in Possession of most of the Money, which was pretty considerable. The 'Squire began to lay about him apace, and seem'd entirely easy, whether he went any farther or not. Wine had expell'd all Fear, and he said, *He thought he had no Occasion to give an Account of himself to any Man ;* and bid *G—d d—mn 'em all.* I called my Landlord aside, and told him the Nature of our Case, and the Mischief that would attend it, if we could not prevail on him to go to Bed ; for he had but one Day more to turn him in. He could not rightly relish my Proposal, for he lik'd his Company hugely ; and our Reckoning began to swell to a good Size ; for the Ostler, as well as Maids, or whoever came into the Room, were sure (if they pleas'd) to be our Companions ; the 'Squire's Good-Nature never making any Difference in his Society, and, as the old Saying is, *will be as well, or better, contented with a Tinker, than a Lord :* And the Ostler was giving him an Account of a famous Cock he was once Master of ; which being the 'Squire's favourite Diversion, he was so taken with the History, that had not some Passengers come late into the Inn, and required him off us, we had not got to *London* that Week. At last I found no other Way of getting him to Bed, but by giving the Chamber-Maid a Fee : So she whisper'd something in his Ear, and he ordered his Boots off immediately, and got to Bed ; and in a few Minutes any one might have ventur'd safe to him.

Next Morning, being *Thursday*, he ordered some Coffee for Breakfast; and his Spirits were very low again, (especially when he thought of *Lincoln's-Inn-Hall*) and was more than ordinary afraid of Highwaymen; our Landlord, the Night before, having given divers strange Accounts of the *Knights of the Pad* in his Memory, as also of one *Child*, who at that Time made great Havock on the Heath: Which Stories had made so great an Impression on him, that he supposed every thing, like Man, had a Design on his Purse; and seeing a Gentleman in his Chaise, with a Brace of Pistols lying before him, was resolved to keep close to him, 'till he came where the two Inns are on the Heath; and then he thought himself landed. But no Child, frightened by Old Women on Winter-Evenings, had ever a greater Impression than the Over-Night's Discourse had made on him; and he could not say any thing but what related to Highwaymen, as what Sort of Men they were, the Colour of their Cloaths, and the Make of their Horses.

By this Time we were got safe to one of the Inns on the Heath, where the 'Squire began to ask our Landlord divers Questions on his late Subject; and the Man seeing him so intent on him, I believe, thought to pass a Joke; and told him, *There was a Highwayman at that Time (one Child) a Man of his Size and Height, rode on such a grey Mare as he had under him, and wore such a coloured Riding-Coat as he had on.* The 'Squire asked no more Questions, but bid me pay the Reckoning, and set out in a great Hurry: And when I came up to him, *Dick Boy*, says he, *yonder was a*
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prime Rogue of a Landlord, to tell me I was like the Highwayman : I would not for a hundred Pound any one but thee had heard him say so ; for the People had took me up, and perhaps have torn me to Pieces, and sent me to Gaol into the Bargain ; and I should have been in a fine Pickle before our Folks could ha' come to have told who I was ; for they would not ha' minded thee, and likely ha' sent thee with me for Company. I told him, 'twas a great Mercy we escaped ; and my Advice was not to call any more 'till we came to London, for fear the same Verdict might be passed on him in another Place : But he promised not to ask any more Questions about such Knaves (as he called them) and we agreed to dine at the Pack-Horse on Turnham-Green ; and in the Evening reach'd London.

I hope my Readers will not think me impertinent, in a second Digression ; but 'tis to shew the Occasion of *Davy's* coming to Town.

He, amongst the rest, strain'd a Point a little far, in the Manner following. When Mrs. B——ly got Affidavit-Men to prove her Husband a Lunatick, *Davy* took on in her Party, and made an Oath against him accordingly. After some Time, the 'Squire and *Davy* got great again, and not being of a scrupulous Temper, swore for his Master's Stability, and once more, by the Tuition of P——, deny'd, upon Oath, that he made the first Affidavit, but that it was contrived by Mr. P——ce and his Clerk, contrary to his Knowledge, and fairly forswore his being in their Company, when his first Affidavit was made.

This, P—— thought, would be a severe Thing against Mr. P——ce ; and *Davy*, to compleat the whole

whole Affair, came to *London*, with a Resolution to swear a direct Forgery against *P—ce*, and thought he should get him committed thereon. But Mrs. *B—ly*'s Council, on the 'Squire's Arrival, dropp'd the Suit; and *P—* allowing her a handsome Maintenance, the 'Squire, and *Davy*, did not visit the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. *P—ce*, not satisfied with the resolute Temper of *Davy*, and willing to clear his Character, indicted him at the Assizes for the County of *Hereford*. As soon as Mr. *P—ce*'s Intentions reach'd *P—*, he being of a grateful Temper, flies to Mrs. *B—ly*; and, after making her large Promises, desires her Assistance to prevail on the Grand Jury not to find the Bill; and told her, she had a good Plea, that being the only Person that was like to suffer by *Davy*'s Rashness, hop'd, as she excused him, they would do the like; but 'twas in vain: The Fact appeared too plain, and the Bill was found. *P—* being good-natur'd, was extremely vex'd it so happened; ^{and} immediately sent a Letter to hasten me into *Wales*, to acquaint *Davy* how Affairs went at *Hereford*, and to advise him, without Delay, to make the best of his Way for *Bristol*, or any other distant Place; and the good Miss *M—ly* gave me Half-a-Crown to give the Fellow, to carry him his Journey. But, as all good Christians are willing to stifle their good Works, so Miss; for she ordered me to tell him 'twas out of my own Pocket; and said, that, being a single Woman, she would not have her Name in Question for the World: For, she thank'd her God, her Conscience was clear; and was sorry *Davy* should be so
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indiscreet ; and if the World knew any good Thing, they did : They would be apt to say, they had some Hand with him in the Affidavits. But her Conscience was to her the greatest of Blessings, which she had always kept untainted.

I was much pleased with Miss's Declaration ; and, tho' in a bad State of Health, took Horse, and went to the Mountains to seek *Davy* from Place to Place ; but could not come in to him : But at last met with a Girl, his Sweetheart ; to whom I told the whole Story, and left my Token with her, with a strict Order for him to remove. This was a disagreeable Message to leave with a Lover : But Necessity has no Law.

Soon after my coming home, I went to Bed, when another Messenger came on the same Errand, for fear I had not observed the first Order, whom I acquainted with my Proceedings ; and I not seeing *Davy*, he was resolved to go next Morning, to try if he could find him. And as he was going on the Way, in a Place called *The Welch Wood*, one called to him ; and, on his looking back, he saw 'twas *Davy*, that had hid himself in the Fern, for fear of him, not knowing him at a Distance ; when the Messenger gave him the same Advice I had left with his Mistress, and gave him a Guinea, sent by *P—* ; or otherwise he was resolved, at all Adventures, to see me : Though his Mate did all she could to dissuade him from coming to *England*, and had pack'd up in order for a March with him.

I did not see *Davy* again for upwards of a Year ; but soon after that Time he appeared again ; and a Gentleman of our Neighbourhood dining at Mr. *Harley's*, now Earl of *Oxford*, heard *P—* and
Davy

Davy talked of at Table, and came and told it at the *P——k*. So I was sent once again to admonish *Davy*, as on my own Account; and I must do Mr. *P——* that Justice, that he told me he would not for 500 *l.* he should be laid hold of, so great was his Value for him; and since that I saw him but once: And so I shall take Leave for a while.

The Lunacy being over, the 'Squire and myself were resolved to see some of the fine Sights that great City so much abounds with. So I called a Coach; but, before Pleasure, he had some Business of his own to dispatch. For, on his being late in Town, he left Notes with Mr. *Waite* at the Bank for 14 or 1500 *l.* to keep in Trust for him. *But faith*, says he, *I have forgot where he lives; but now I remember 'tis just by a Church that has Chimes in it.* I was surprized at the Oddness of the Remark he made; but he told me he could remember his Name, and did not fear but, by my Assistance, in Time to find him. So I ordered the Man to drive to the next Coffee-House to the Bank; where I thought 'twas most likely to find him, or any other Dealer in Paper of that Kind; and in a little Time met with him, who very fairly delivered them again.

Now we took our Fill of Pleasure; visited three or four Taverns a Day; and frequently, in the Evenings, went into the back Part of the Twelve-penny Gallery at *Covent-Garden* Play-House, and other Places, not proper to mention, as being both married Men, which are plenty in that Part of the Town.

Our high Living, and the Thickness of the Air, soon made the Town tedious; and we resolv'd to take

take a Walk out to some Village near, to spend a little of our Time; 'twas no Matter at what End o'th' Town we set out at, all being alike to us: But enquiring which Way we could come soonest at the Fields, we were directed to those called *Red-Lyon*, we lodging in *Holbourn*: So keeping on a strait Road, we came to *Pancrass-Wells*. The Situation pleased the 'Squire very much, and we employ'd a great Part of the Morning in reading the Tomb-stones, after Dinner drank, and in the Evening walk'd home again, leaving Orders for Part of a Dinner to be provided the next Day, and the rest we were to bring with us. But this was too pleasant to last long; for a fore Accident happen'd next Morning.

Davy, by the 'Squire's Order, walked before us over the Fields, with a Pistol in his Hand, to guard us against a sorry Sort of People that are wont to ravage there on Evenings. But we got safe to our Inn; where one of the Chamberlains inform'd the 'Squire, that, since he went out, a Person had made an odd Sort of an Enquiry for him, which he suspected to be a Bailiff. So he took to his Chamber, from whence he came not out that Evening; for I supp'd with him there. Next Morning he bid me call a Coach, and when I had got one ready, he stepp'd quickly into it; and I bid the Man drive on briskly to *Pancrass-Wells*. The Bailiffs were attending; but the Fellow going off smart, they could not come to stop the Coach, however waited in *Gray's-Inn-Lane*, and when he return'd, asked him where he had put down his Fare. He answered, *At the Wells*. So they came into the Town again for a Person that knew Mr.

B——ly, there being another of the same Size, or near it, with him ; one Mr. *Michael Clark*, a Gentleman of *Radnorshire* : I going on Foot, with his Servant, to buy some Provision by his Direction.

However, I was soon with them, and found the 'Squire low-spirited : So he called me aside, and desired I would write to Mr. P——, (for he had a strange Dream the Night before, and was sure he should fall into the Hands of Bailiffs) for him to make up the Affair with Mr. P—— concerning one *Legg*, whom he had borrow'd a Thousand Pounds of ; and as Mr. P—— had all his Substance, was in hopes he would put a speedy Stop to it, and not let him come into the Shame and Trouble of the unpleasant Society of *London Bailiffs* ; he ever having an Aversion to that Sort of People. I wrote to Mr. P——, and sent *Davy* immediately with the Letter, which was to the same Purport as before ; and, in as little Time as could be expected, he return'd with an Answer to me, to this Purpose : *That, since the Receipt of mine, he had been and search'd all the Offices ; and that there was no Occasion of Fear, for there was no Process of any Kind against him.*

I shew'd the 'Squire the Letter ; and he was wonderfully pleas'd, that his Dream was no more than a Dream ; and asked me to take a Walk with him in the Church-Yard, and sent for the Clerk of the Parish, to see what Curiosities were in the Inside of the Church, we having took a Survey of most of the Things on the Outside the Day before. The Clerk soon came ; and the 'Squire ask'd him what he would take to shew him the Inside of the Church : He answered, *Six-pence, Sir.—Nay bold, Friend,*

reply'd the 'Squire, *that's too much ; but I'll give thee Three-pence, and a Quart of Ale ;* and on those Terms we came to a Bargain.

But there are many Accidents between the *Cup* and *Lip* ; so it happened to us. For as the Clerk was unlocking the Door, a Gentleman to Appearance, with three Footmen in Livery, said, *Your Servant Mr. B——ly ; I have an Attachment against you.* The 'Squire was much surprized, and asked the seeming Gentleman what his Attachment was for. He answer'd, at the Suit of Mr. *S. B——ly*, for not giving in his Answer in Chancery. On this Bustle, Mr. *Clarke* came ; and we apprehending nothing worse, I having receiv'd a Letter to the contrary, desired him to walk in to our Quarters, and we would be his Bail, there being no great Nicety who is a Security on that Score. The Gentleman told us he could not accept it, unless we went to the Office ; and dispatch'd one of his Followers (in my Hearing) to call a Coach, with which he soon return'd ; and the 'Squire, Mr. *Clarke*, the Bailiff, and myself, got into it, and two of the Footmen behind, and the other on the Box with the Driver.

On our Arrival at the End of *Gray's-Inn-Lane*, I asked the Bailiff, if he had no other Action against Mr. *B——ly*, knowing there was no Need of so much Formality on account of the Attachment. He told me had, I ask'd him, if it was not at the Suit of one *Legg*. He said, *Yes, for 1040l.* I desired him to let me see the Process. So he took out his Pocket-Book, and, to my great Surprize, I found it was dated several Days before. For by *Davy's* returning so soon, I was afraid that

he, Mr. P——, was mistook in his Account of searching the Offices, as very probably he might, having then a great deal of Business on his Hands.

I begg'd the Bailiff to order the Coachman to stop in *Holbourn*, that I might alight, and to give me Directions where I might find my 'Squire again. He gave me a small printed Bill, with the Name of *Gotobed*, in *Peter-Street*, *Clare-Market*.

I was so afflicted to have my Companion tore from me, that instead of going towards the *Bull and Gate*, our Inn, I ran to *St. Andrew's Church* before I found I was going the wrong Way. I turn'd short, and soon found Mr. P——, who seem'd surpriz'd at what had happened, and sent me for Mr. *Charles B—wyn* of *Lincoln's-Inn*, who return'd with me. I left them together with my printed Bill, and made what Speed I could to my disconsolate 'Squire, who was ushered into a strong Room, and not the most agreeable Company about him. Soon after Mr. P—— came, and sent me for one Mr. *H—pe* of the *Exchequer*, and Mr. *F——ks*, the Gentleman that sued out the Process; and I was in great Expectation of having the 'Squire bail'd, which Mr. *H—pe* promised he would do. And when I thought all Things in a fair Way, in came Mr. *B—wyn*, and seem'd to be busy in the Affair; and Mr. *H—pe* thinking he was come to take Bread off his Trencher, altered his Resolution, and said, He thought Mr. *B—wyn* was the fittest Person to give the Security; so that we were now as far off as ever.

I went twice to the Sheriff's House (it not being an Office-Day) which was the farthest in *London*, next *Red-Lyon Fields*, to know if he would
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be at home : And he patiently heard my Story ; and told me, if Bail could be had, he would, contrary to Custom, go to his Office ; but that I must procure a Person of good Repute, and a House-keeper in Town, for one of the Bail.

Late in the Evening, Mr. P——, Mr. Clarke, Mr. B——wyn, and Mr. H——pe, with myself, went to the Sheriff's House, whose Name was *Benson*, and, I must needs say, one of the most civiliz'd Persons I ever saw an Under-Sheriff ; who said, If either Mr. B——wyn or Mr. H——pe would be Bail with Mr. P——, 'twas equal to him which, they both being well known to him. But they shuffled it from one to the other, so that at last neither would ; and the poor 'Squire was forced to stay in Durance all Night.

This Separation was a great Affliction to me, for I hated to be from him one Night : But he, on account of my running about all Day, begg'd me to go to my Lodging, and Mr. Clarke would stay and bear him Company all Night.

I went away with a heavy Heart, not knowing any one to apply to for Help ; but, as I lay a Bed, thought of one Mr. *Luddindton*, whom I apply'd to next Morning ; and soon after Mr. P—— went to him ; and, on giving him Security, he was the 'Squire's Bail ; and we once more got together at our full Liberty.

I thought his Company now better than ever, and the Loss of him one Night taught me how to put the greater Value on him : So we resolved to call a Coach, and go to the Wells again, to eat what we had laid in the Day before ; for one of our Company was there all the while, and wondered

dered we did not return. But Mr. P—— desired Mr. B——ly, with several kind Squeezes by the Hand, to stay while I wrote a few Lines; and called for some Drams, to put his Spirits on their usual Flow; and seemed so much concerned for his Night's Confinement, that I am not able to express the Force thereof. So I took my Pen and Ink, and wrote an Indorsement on the Back of a Mortgage, wherein Mr. B——ly acknowledged to have had and received of Mr. P—— the Contents within-mentioned; which was a Sum of so great a Value, I think it not proper to relate, but told Mr. B——ly, 'twas something to strengthen their Cause; and without either letting me, or reading it himself, to acquaint him with the Purport, hurried him to put his Hand to it, which I witnessed: And then with a friendly Squeeze by the Hand, and a Salute, wish'd him a good Stomach to his Dinner; and away we went to the Wells.

Our Mirth was not so natural as usual; and after Dinner, *Dick Boy*, says he, *I believe these Wells are on unlucky Ground; for thee mayst see our Landlady does not look as tho' she had got much at the Place; and I have heard say there have been a great many unhappy Weddings at this Church: So I am resolved to take my Leave of it, and thee and I, with Davy, will go into Kent, as far as Gravesend; for I have heard there is a great many rare merry Fellows there, that have been round the whole World; and I have a Mind to hear what a Country that is beyond the Sea.*

The next Day we din'd at the *Fleece-Tavern*, facing *St. Dunstan's Church*, that no one might interrupt us, whilst we consulted in what Manner

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to go, whether by Land or Water ; and being *November* the 4th, and a pleasant Time o'th' Year on the River, he was resolved to hire an open Boat, that we might have an Opportunity of taking a View of the most remarkable Things on the Way.

I did all I could to keep him from a Water Journey at that Season of the Year, and our Landlord promised, if he would go by Land, to wait on him as far on his Journey as *Woolwich*. He soon came into the Proposal ; and that we might be ready to set out next Morning, continued drinking all Night, to make us the more capable of performing ; when we set out together, and got to *Woolwich* in good Time.

Our Landlord there had a fair Daughter, which made the 'Squire almost forget that he was a married Man: So he called for all the good Things she could think of, never being niggardly, especially when a Lady is in the Case. But what with Love, and too much Familiarity with the Bottle, he soon grew intolerable Company ; which any one would think almost impossible, if he knew the Society the Publick-Houses in those Sea-Ports are filled with: Nay, several of the Seamen that had visited both *Indies*, said, he was the strangest Creature they had ever seen ; and when I told them he was a *Welchman*, they stared the more at him, and said, he was the greatest Curiosity their Travels ever afforded.

The Lady soon grew weary of his Company, and set out for Church ; but 'twas impossible for him to stay behind her ; and all the Entreaties I could use, were not sufficient to keep him from
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his Devotion, tho' I follow'd him to the Church-Door.

Soon after his Entrance, he fixed his Eyes on his young Landlady, who was got into a Pew with half a Dozen more of her Sex; who forgetting they were at Church, and staring at his red Coat and great Hanger, broke out into a broad Smile; which being a Thing he always hated, (that is, to be laugh'd at) and forgetting where he was, in an audible Voice told them, *They were all Whores, and he knew it by their Eyes.*

The Man of God hearing a strange Hurly-burly, stopp'd his Discourse, and 'twas Time for him; for the whole Assembly had their Eyes and Thoughts wholly fix'd on the 'Squire, who foam'd and rag'd like a Boar, and was so loud, that I could hear what he said, tho' out of the Church-Yard; nor was I ever in half the Confusion in any of our former Adventures: When I could immediately see my 'Squire come hurried along the Church by Violence, and with one Consent was voted to the Stocks.

I expected nothing less than bearing him Company, if I offered to intercede for him; but was sorry to see him dragg'd along like a Bear to a Stake, and with as much Noise, all crying, *Away with him.* However, I pluck'd up my Spirits, and as they were around him at the Place of Execution, and the Jaws of the Stocks opened ready to receive him, push'd into the Crowd; where seeing a Gentleman of a more awful Aspect than the rest, I begg'd him to hear me speak: When I told him 'twas a Lunatick Gentleman that had got from me and another, his Keepers; that we followed as fast

as we could, but that he had laid hold of the Horns of the Altar before we could come up with him; that we would keep him safe, not to disturb them any more; and as his Case was so deplorable, I hop'd they would rather return to the Church and pray for him, than punish a Person in his Circumstances. The Speech I made, carried so much Probability with it, that they unanimously agreed to deliver him into our Hands: When one Part returned to the Church, and the Mobility, at our Heels, to an Inn hard by, not where we first put up, I taking the Opportunity of Housing him as soon as I possibly could.

No sooner was he sat down, but he took Acquaintance with several Tars, and called for White Wine in a plentiful Manner; and took all Opportunities of quarrelling with me, telling the Sailors, I was a great Rogue, and he thought them some of the honestest Fellows he ever met with; and immediately threw down *Ten Shillings*, which he promised to treat them with, if they would kick *Davy* and me out of the Room; saying, that we both of us before the whole Congregation in the Church-Yard said he was mad. The Sailors did not want much Encouragement; which we perceiving, were forced to make the best of our Way out of the House, and came to our first Inn.

As soon as I came within the Door, the Landlord asked me what I had done with my Bear. I told him where and with whom I left him. *And there he may stay*, says he, *for he shall not come under my Roof any more; but as to you and the Servant, you're welcome.* I was by this Time gone so angry with him, that I almost came to a Resolution

to go and leave him; but, on second Thoughts, was in hopes of getting him sober once again, and then bring him to *London*, and deliver him up to his Friend P——.

Whilst I was contriving within myself in what Manner to act, and reflecting on the Poverty of his Temper, (that so soon as I had freed him from the Parish-Officers and the Stocks, I should by him be thrown into the Hands of Savages) I heard a dismal Outcry in the Street. For no sooner had the Sailors drank what Money he had laid on the Table, and pick'd his Pockets of the rest, but they set one and all upon him, and, to say the Truth, abused their Benefactor most shamefully.

He kept a confounded Noise in the Street, and, altho' late in the Evening, had Company enough about him, all laughing, but no Pity; and cried out hard for myself and *Davy*; but there was none to recommend him to us, and our Host swore, if we offered to bring him into his House, we should all turn out for Company.

I asked him if he knew any Person that had an honest House, if the Lodging was not so extraordinary, it should do; for I could not bear to hear him make such piteous Moan in the Street as he did; for he was laid down by the Dead Wall at the King's Dock, and not able to stir an Inch farther. So I sent *Davy* to stay by him, whilst I went with the Ostler to seek a Lodging for him; which I luckily got at a Woman's House, whose Daughter wash'd for the Inn, and the Mother kept a small Shop, at the Price of *Eight Shillings* by the Lump, let the Time be longer or shorter, 'till he should be able to travel again.

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The Room was small, being only a Place for a Bed, and a small Passage round it, where was Room for a Chair to stand; and by the Help of Friends I got him carried to his Lodging, where I put him in, and lock'd his Door; there being no Danger of his wanting any thing before Morning, except a Chamber-pot, which I set on the Chair by him, with a Stock of Paper, and so went to my Quarters.

When I rose the next Morning, I went to see if he was alive, and on my looking towards his Window, the Pent-house over the old Woman's Shop inform'd me that there was no dead Body at that House; I seeing the old Woman and her Daughter at the Door. So I gave *Davy* the Key, and bid him see how Affairs went within; when he ordered *Davy* to put the Key under the Door, and no one to come near him 'till he sent for them.

I never made any Enquiry for him of his Landlady; the Pent-house over the old Woman's Shop inform'd me he was not bound in his Body: For, after two Nights, he had quilted the Shed all over, which was chequered with such Variety of Paper sticking in it, that it very much resembled a Sign in *Rag-Fair*, tho' of much larger Dimensions. On the third Day in the Morning he sent for *Davy*, and told him, he wanted to see me; but said, he would have Things put a little to rights before I came.

On my Approach, he made great Complaints of divers Disorders that hung on him; but I soon found where his Sicknefs lay: For his late good Companions, before they put him out of Doors, had took Care to take away every Penny of his

Money, which he never missed 'till he began to grow sober. But, in the mean time, I sent to *London* for Money to clear our Quarters, unknown to him; for if I had acquainted him that I had a Supply, he would have had the other Round, not being easily repuls'd.

I told him I had gain'd Credit for his Expences, and begg'd him to rise and mount his Horse; for my Landlord inform'd me, that the Noise he made in the Church had reach'd the Bishop's Ears, and that his Officers were in Quest of him, and were resolv'd to have him wherever he was; so that, if he would rise, I had got one to convey him out the Back-way, and *Davy* should meet him with his Horse at a Place fix'd on. He lik'd the Proposal, and jump'd out of his unfavoury Kennel; and his Guide, waiting below, receiv'd him, and off he went; and about a Quarter of a Mile from the Town brought him into the Road, where his Horse and myself were ready; and 'twas not a great while e're we reach'd *London*. From which Place he resolv'd to set out next Morning, and make no Stay 'till he got into *Herefordshire*; and was as good as his Promise; for he stay'd but a Night in a Place, and was sober all the Way to *Hereford*; where he stay'd two or three Days, in order for a Belly-full, as he call'd it. The Thoughts of standing in a white Sheet put such a Terror on him, that he never thought himself safe 'till he got over *Wye-Bridge*, and then he said, *Dick Boy, a T—d for them all.*

I hope, I have sufficiently satisfied the Curious, what a Taste Mr. B——ly has as to his Society, and also the Strength of his natural as well as acquired

quired Parts: And now shall proceed to shew, after Mr. *P*—— had, in all Probability, got Mr. *B*——ly firm to his Party, how he and his Family managed Affairs, so as to make Mr. *B*——ly entirely elope from them, and give his Assent to his Father's Will, in favour of Mr. *S. B*——ly.

Mr. *P*—— having purchased and Leased most of the Houses in the Borough of *Weobley*, and having, as he thought, got the Ministry to stand by him in whatever he acted, altho' ever so contrary to Reason and Justice, was for bringing in strange Laws and Customs of his own contriving, to the entire Dissolution of the ancient Prerogative thereof, in Manner following.

He by telling unaccountable Stories, of which he is sole Master, had gain'd so much Credit with several of his Neighbours (and a great many of them Gentlemen of Fortune) that he made them believe, by his making sham Conveyances to them, he could put the Inhabitants by all their ancient and rightful Customs; still believing, and making most of them think so too, that whatever he acted, tho' ever so illegal, as having the Imputation of a *Courtier*, would be over-ruled in his Favour, tho' ever so *male* in itself: And having got the Returning Officers (one of which was the 'forementioned *C*——l) thought of nothing less than by the Appearance of so many Gentlemen, with their lame Titles, to over-rule all Right, tho' ever so well back'd. And *C*——l giving him a full Assurance of his Courage and Resolution, put *P*—— on striving not only to ruin the Borough, but to displace Gentlemen of the greatest Honour and Fortune from being Justices of the Peace, and placing some of his own Creatures in their stead.

The first that were to be struck off, were the present *E*——l of *Ox*——d, Sir *J*——n *M*——n, and Mr. *C*——r; and in their stead, the said *C*——l, the famous *S*——l *B*——t, Vicar of *E*——y, and Mr. *W*——te, Vicar of *K*——n; tho' I never heard Mr. *W*——te gave himself the Trouble of once thinking of such a Thing.
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However, the three Gentlemen above-named were by *P* — and *C* — *l* appointed to be put out, and the other three to be placed in their stead. And I must needs say, that *B* — *t* was very active in it, and carried on his Part to a great Length.

C — *l* being, as he now thought, firm in his Post, and considering that a Justice of the Peace made but an insignificant Figure without an Estate, cast in his Mind which Way he might avoid the Imputation of *Justice No-Land*; and finding that Mr. *B* — *ly* had about *Sixty Pounds* a Year of Copyhold Land, that he was not yet gull'd out of, thought this would be better, at his first opening his Justice's Shop, than to have his Commission without either Learning or Estate to give a Grace to it: And, upon opening his Mind to Mr. *P* —, the Thing took so well, that 'twas soon contriv'd how to get Mr. *B* — *ly* out of Copy, and *C* — *l* in; but so little to the Advantage of *C* — *l*, that he had only the Nominal, and *P* — the Real Title at last.

C — *l* being (as he now thought) got into an Estate on easy Terms, began to look upon himself as Somebody, and bought *Shaw's Justice*, and borrow'd *Nelson*: And I must needs say, that *B* — *t* was no way backward; for in a few Days he furnish'd himself both with ancient and modern Records, as *Parish-Settlements*, *Cases in Bastardy*, *Hue and Cries*, and the like; and brought his Stock to *C* — *l*, that, as they were to act together, they might begin their Studies at the same Time; and that their Learning in the Law being of an equal Footing, and their Abilities being known to each other, they might, in the Dispatch of Business, act with the greater Conformity. And I could observe a very great Union in their Opinions: Only sometimes, for Decency's sake, there were double Constructions in some of their Pleadings; but, I believe, 'twas only to make it look the more like a Petty-Sessions; and no two Children, making Dirt-Pies, were ever busier than they; and their little Wranglings much of the same Weight.

I seeing them go on at this prosperous Rate, and so great a Harmony between two of a Trade, began to think within myself, that it would be highly profitable for me (as having a thorough Acquaintance with them both) to put in for a Clerk: But whether my begging for the Place was ushered in with too much Freedom, or, according to my old Luck, asking too late, I was peremptorily answered, their Clerkships were both promised. I expected (according to the Nature of other Great Men) that they would have considered on it. But my Repulse had something so considerable in it, that I was resolved, for the future, never to ask them myself, or to put on any Friend for any Promotion in their Gift.

By this Time the Election came on apace, when C——l promised great Feats, not only as being one of the Returning Officers, but as to Acts of Manhood: And really, in a warm Parlour, over a Tankard of Ale amongst Women, would talk very shrewdly; sometimes calling himself supreme Judge of the Poll, and at other Times saying, he was Lord Chancellor there; and that he would take his Pistol in one Hand, and the *Riot-Act* in the other, and see who durst oppose him. The good Women, hearing him talk of Arms and Paper, were much delighted therewith, only were afraid his Courage might bring his Person in Danger; and not hearing me talk of the mighty Deeds I would perform, look'd on me as a cowardly insignificant Fellow, in comparison with their Brother C——l: And, after another Pot or two, he ordered his dreadful Engines to be fastened on the Front of his Saddle, and in a courageous Manner set off for W——y; where, he said, he would be chief Actor, if there was any Danger of Bloodshed: And I must needs say, the Ladies were still in a Pannick, for fear his Courage might endanger his Life.

W——y was in a great Uproar before his Arrival; and a great many Persons with hard Sticks, and surly Countenances, by Beat of Drum, march'd up to his
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Quarters, which somewhat abated the Intrepidity he had shewn amongst the Women; and, on the Mob's nearer advancing, he was resolv'd to let them see he was not afraid to shew his Face; when thro' one of the uppermost Windows in the House he shew'd himself, and shak'd his Act of Parliament at them: But they had so little Regard for him, that they rang'd about 'till they thought proper to disperse; he giving them no further Trouble about it at that Time, or ever after.

In a few Days after I came to pay him a Visit, when I found him a different Man from what he was at our last Parting; for seeing the Hardness of the Sticks had turn'd his Face as pale as a Clout; and, in short, he told me, he was the most miserable Man living, and found his Spirits grew worse and worse; and on the Election-Day, in the Morning early, entirely laid aside his former Resolution of his Pistol and Riot-Act, and took to his Heels; and about Eight got safe (tho' in a great Heat) to *W—n*, leaving no Proxy to keep the King's Peace in his stead.

You may imagine Mr. *P—* and his Freeholders were in a bad Taking by this Time, and Mr. *P—* ordered me to send out Persons on Horseback to seek his Constable, but he was not to be found: So Mr. *P—* lost his Election, and the Loss of that spoilt his Interest; so *C—l* and *B—t* lost their Commissions for the Peace, and the Neighbourhood two *Worthy* Magistrates.

Mr. *B—ly* finding *P—* beginning to decline; and *C—l* making a Boast of his Estate, it reach'd Mr. *B—ly*'s Ears; and Miss *M—y* using the same Grace to what ever went to his Room, that she had before done to the Old Man's Hasty-Pudding, (that was) *The Devil choak him with it*, so affronted him, that he took Horse and came to *Weobley*; where dropping into the Hands of some sly Lads, they persuaded him to go to *London* with them: Where he took out a Probate of his Father's Will, which *P—* had kept him from doing some Years, in order to defraud Mr. *S. B—ly* of what was left him. So there was an End put to a great deal of Grandeur, as well as Magistracy, to the no small Grief of *P—*, as well as the Country in general.

The END of the FIRST PART.

In the next, some remarkable Passages of *M—* *P—*, from his being a School-Boy, to his being indicted for *Forgery*.